

HOUSE BILL 1554
By Hargrove

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71,
Chapter 5, Part 1, relative to payments to hospitals
and other health care providers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-5-102 (a), is amended by designating the present language as subdivision (1) and by adding the following as a new subdivision (2):

(2) It is the intent of the general assembly to stabilize the TennCare health care provider network and to ensure that health care facilities that provide services to both urban and rural TennCare enrollees and uninsured or uninsurable individuals remain viable entities.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-5-188(a), is amended by deleting "TennCare" and substituting instead "medical assistance" and by deleting "its" and substituting instead "any".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-5-188(b), is amended by deleting in the first sentence "its" and substituting instead "any", and by adding at the end the following: "The State shall insure that hospitals are paid reasonable payment rates as determined by the study."

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-5-188 (c), is amended by deleting the language in the first sentence, "in a separate section,". Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-5-1288(c) is further amended by deleting the language in the second sentence "for comparison with the provider assumptions used in the study" and substituting "in determining reasonable reimbursement rates for providers."

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 5, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 71-5-148. The comptroller shall report the adequacy of provider networks for the TennCare program to the general assembly no later than January 1, 2006.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.